PRIMITIVE BAPTIST
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Minutes

OF THE

Ninety-First
Annual Session

OF THE

Cypress Creek
Primitive Baptist Association

HELD WITH

ROCKY MOUNT CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 25, 26, 27,

1959

— OFFICERS —

ELDER A. D. SHIPP ..... Moderator
ELDER ODELL BROOKS ..... Assistant Moderator
BROTHER J. E. DAVIS ..... Clerk
BROTHER W. M. THOMPSON ..... Assistant Clerk

THE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST PUBLISHING HOUSE
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Proceedings

OF THE NINETY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION OF THE CYPRESS CREEK PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

FRIDAY MORNING

As previously agreed the Association met with the Rocky Mt. Church September 25, 1959. Meeting was opened by Brother A. B. Nelson singing hymn 355. Brother L. C. Crawford offered prayer.

The Moderator, Elder A. D. Shipp read the scripture lesson from Matt. 18 and called Elder E. Brooks to preach the Introductory sermon. He used as his text 1 John 3:1. Elder A. D. Shipp alternated preaching from the same text.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

The meeting was opened by Bro. L. C. Crawford singing hymn 196. Brother A. D. Shipp, Jr. offered prayer. The Moderator read the Scripture lesson from Rom. 5. The Association proceeded to business. The roll of churches was called and names of delegates enrolled. The Moderator announced that the Association was without an official staff. It was motioned and carried that we hold our same staff of officials for the year 1959-60.

The Association being organized, the Moderator appointed various committees as follows:

Committee on Arrangement: Bro. L. C. Crawford, Bro. Hudson Booth. Their report is shown in devotional exercise.

Committee on Correspondence: Elder E. Brooks, Eld. L. M. Nelson and Brother Clyde Davis.

Committee on Finance: Brother Galveston Hughes, Brother Freddie Thomas and Brother A. D. Shipp Jr. Their report is shown in the table of expenditure.

SATURDAY MORNING

The meeting was opened by Bro. L. C. Crawford singing hymn 196. Brother Freddie Thomas offered prayer. The Moderator read the scripture lesson from 1 John 4. It was motioned and carried that we hear the report of our corresponding messengers. Elder A. D. Shipp and Elder E. Brooks gave a good report from the following Association: Friendship, Pine Light and Crew Lake Association.

It was motioned and carried that we hear the report of our

Correspondence Committee. The report: We your Committee beg leave to report that we received correspondence from Union Association by letter and minutes by the hands of Elder O. B. Thrower; from Pine Light by letter and minutes by the hand of Elder B. F. Belcher; From Frinedship by letter and minutes by the hand of Elder Martin Gibbs. From Beouff River by letter and minutes; from Sipsey River by letter and minutes. We agreed to leave space for other correspondence that is absent.

We agreed to return correspondence with Union Association with letter and minutes by the hand of Elder A. D. Shipp with Pine Light by letter and minutes by the hand of Elder A. D. Shipp; with Friendship by letter and minutes by the hand of Elder A. D. Shipp; with Beouff River by letter and minutes; with Sipsey River by letter and minutes to be returned by mail. The report received and Committee discharged.

SATURDAY EVENING

The meeting was opened with song and prayer. It was motioned and carried that the sitting of our next session will be held with the Cypress Creek Church, Arlington, Tennessee. Elder Odell Brooks and Elder E. Brooks will preach the Introductory Sermons.

Union meeting for the year 1960 with Rocky Mt. Church, Saturday before the fourth Sunday in August. To attend, Elder Odell Brooks and Elder A. D. Shipp; with Street Hill Church, Saturday before the third Sunday in August. To attend, Elder Odell Brooks and Elder A. D. Shipp.

It was motioned and carried that we have 150 copies of our minutes printed. It was motioned and carried that the Clerk read the minutes which were read and approved by the Association, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk.

Elder A. D. Shipp, Moderator
Elder Odell Brooks, Ass't. Moderator
Brother J. E. Davis, Clerk
Brother W. M. Thompson, Ass't. Cl.

DEVOTIONAL EXERCISE

Friday Morning: The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder E. Brooks who used as his text 1 John 3:1. Elder A. D. Ship alternated from the same text.

Friday Night: Elder O. B. Thrower used as his text St. John 6:44. Elder L. M. Nelson, Rom. 8:39.

Saturday Morning: Elder B. F. Belcher, Elder M. Gibbs. No record of text.

Saturday Night: Elder M. Gibbs used as his text Rev. 6:17. Elder E. Brooks preached from the same text.

Sunday Morning: Elder O. B. Thrower used as his text Matt. 4:10. Elder Odell Brooks used as his text Rev. 14:1. Elder B. F. Belcher used same text. Elder M. Gibbs and Elder E. Brooks used same text. Closed by the Moderator, Elder A. D. Shipp.

TABLE OF EXPENDITURES

Received from the churches	$ 62.75	
Received from the public	$105.16	
In the Treasury	20.00	
Elder E. Brooks turned back to the Association what was not used in 1958	8.00	$195.91
Donated to officers as follows:		
Elder A. D. Shipp, Moderator	$ 7.00	
Elder Odell Brooks, Ass't. Moderator	3.50	
Brother J. E. Davis, Clerk	7.00	
Brother W. M. Thompson, Ass't. Clerk	3.50	
Donated to correspondents:		
Elder M. Gibbs	7.00	
Elder O. B. Thrower	11.00	
Elder B. F. Belcher	9.00	
To return correspondents:		
Elder A. D. Shipp	27.00	
Water Boy	2.50	
Church expenses	.75	
Clerk's expenses	1.13	
Donated to Street Hill Church on Building	20.00	
Donated to the four Elders	40.00	
Turned in Treasury	15.00	
To Elders and Brethren	13.53	
Total in Treasury	35.00	
Printing our Minutes	30.00	
Balance in Treasury	$ 5.00	

CORRESPONDING LETTER

To the Sister Associations with whom we correspond, we send Christian greetings:

Dear Beloved Saints:—We are still trying to keep the unity of faith in bonds of peace, and wishing to continue our friendly correspondence with you. We hereby notify you that our next session will be held with the Cypress Creek Church, Arlington, Tenn., beginning Friday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1960, at which time and place we hope to meet again with messengers bearing letters of correspondence.

Pray for us and visit us when you can, and may we be permitted to meet in the general assembly of the first born when we will all be one in Christ Jesus.

Elder A. D. Shipp, Moderator
Elder Odell Brooks, Ass't. Moderator
Brother J. E. Davis, Clerk
Brother W. M. Thompson, Ass't. Cl.

ROLL OF ORDAINED MINISTERS

Elder A. D. Shipp, Sardis, Mississippi
Elder E. Brooks, 2274 Supreme Ave., Memphis, Tenn.
Elder L. M. Nelson, Star Route, Box 81, Sardis, Miss.
Elder Joe Bean, Rt. 2, Box 101, Holly Springs, Miss.
Elder Odell Brooks, 4236 Rushin Rd., Memphis, Tenn.
Elder F. Grim, Memphis, Tenn.

Address of Moderator and Clerks:
Elder Odell Brooks, 4236 Rushin Rd., Memphis, Tenn.
Elder A. D. Shipp, Rt. 2, Box 103, Sardis, Miss.
Brother J. E. Davis, Rt. 3, Box 113A, Holly Springs, Miss.
Brother W. M. Thompson, Rt. 3, Box 145, Oxford, Miss.

CHURCHES AND PASTORS

Cypress Creek—Elder E. Brooks
New Zion—Elder Joe Bean
Street Hill—Elder Odell Brooks
Hurricane Creek—Elder A. D. Shipp
Rocky Mt.—Elder A. D. Shipp
Harmonia—Elder E. Brooks

CONSTITUTION

We, the United Primitive Churches of Christ, being in West Tennessee and Mississippi, having been regularly baptized upon a profession of our faith in Christ, are convinced of a necessity of combination of churches in order to perpetuate a union among us and preserve and maintain a correspondence with each other in our union. We, therefore, propose to maintain and keep the order and rules as an Association according to the following plan:

1. The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our union, who, on producing letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, shall be entitled to seats.

2. The members thus chosen and convened shall be known by the name of Cypress Creek Association, who shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage or to infringe on any of the internal rights of the churches in the union, but shall be merely considered in the light of an advisory council in matters respecting internal concerns. Nevertheless, it becomes necessary in some cases to have a uniform rule of proceeding, viz: When an offense may be committed by one church against another, it shall be the duty of the church so offended to labor with the offender for satisfaction, and if she fails to succeed, she shall call in aid of two or more churches in the union to assist in the labor and if, finally, satisfaction (in the opinion of the help thus called in) cannot be obtained, then the aggrieved church may bring the case before the Association, which is bound to act upon it. And also: when any serious difference may arise in an individual church which they

themselves (after all due labor had) cannot reconcile, they shall call in the aid of two or more sister churches in the union to assist in the work; and if, finally satisfaction is not obtained, the case may be brought before the Association, which shall act upon it. And further: to illustrate the mode of proceeding in the above cases, reference shall be had to the eighteenth chapter of Matthew and the other Scriptures which respect discipline for the bringing to trial and determining on the case of an individual member of no case of the above kind unless the above proceedings have been had thereon.

3. The letters from the different churches shall express their members in fellowship, those baptized, received by letter, dismissed, excommunicated, and died since last Association, which shall be read and the messengers' names enrolled.

4. Every church in the union shall be entitled to send two messengers to the Association to represent said church, and should any church neglect to represent herself there she shall state her reason in her next letter to the Association.

5. New churches may be admitted into the union, who shall petition by letter or messengers, and upon examination, if found orthodox and orderly, shall be received by the Association, and manifested by the moderator giving the right hand.

6. The Association, when convened, shall be governed by a regular and proper decorum, which they are authorized to form.

7. The Association shall appoint a moderator from among themselves for the time being, whose duty it shall be to see that the Rules of Decorum are attended to, and to take the opinion of the Association on all questions properly brought before it. A clerk also shall be appointed, whose duty it shall be to take correct minutes of the proceedings.

8. The Association shall have power to exclude any church from its union who shall violate the rules of this Association or deviate from the orthodox principles of the gospel.

9. The Association shall endeavor to furnish the churches with minutes of their proceedings.

10. Every query sent by a particular church must be included in her letter, certifying that she has endeavored to settle it but could not in which case the Association shall take it under consideration, and the vote of the majority be entered on the minutes as its advice.

11. Queries which immediately concern the union or state of church's bounds without ministerial aid from one or more churches, handed in by proper motion made, and seconded by an individual, shall be taken up and decided on as soon as opportunity permits.

12. Any church in our union, having a member possessed with preaching talents, shall not license him to exercise his gift out of said church's bounds with ministerial aid from one or more churches, who, when in conjunction with the church, may, if deemed qualified, license him to his gift among the churches at discretion, and the churches may report thereon to the next Association which report shall be entered on the minutes; and any member, having been duly tried as regards his preaching talents by the ministerial aid so called in and failing to give ample satisfaction, shall thereupon be silenced.

13. Any church having a candidate for the ministry amongst her members whom she deems worthy of credentials, shall call a presbytery of members of our union to officiate; and said presbytery shall in all cases of ordination, both as minister, deacons and constitution of churches, be regulated by the Abstract of Principles adopted by this Association.

14. The Association shall have a fund for the support of same, which shall be supported by voluntary contributions of churches, whose duty

it shall be to send it by the hand of their messengers, which money sent shall be deposited in the hands of the treasurer, who shall be appointed for that purpose and be accountable to the Association for all money received or paid out by him as they may direct.

15. There shall be an associational book provided and kept, in which the proceedings of the Association shall be regularly recorded by the clerk, who shall receive yearly compensation for his sevices.

16. The Association shall not adjourn until they have gone through the business, except extraordinary cases.

17. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected and signed by the moderator and attested by the clerk before the Association rises.

18. The Association shall, in all cases, be governed by a majority of the members present.

19. Amendments to this plan or form of government may be made at any time, when a majority of the churches deem it necessary.

20. Any minister of this Association who is known to preach anything that is not orthodox, his license or credentials must be demanded by the church or this Association.

21. The moderator and clerk shall be empowered to correct all business too hastily done or neglected.

22. We will not hold in fellowship any church that holds any member in her that is a member of any of the following institutions, to wit: Theological School Conventions, Missionary Societies, Tract Societies, Sunday School Unions, Temperance Societies, nor any other society that is tributary to the Missionary plan that now exists in the United States. Neither will we knowingly correspond with or receive correspondence from any association that holds churches in fellowship holding members in them that are members of any of the above named institutions, together with any other society claiming to be auxiliary to the church of Christ, members belonging to the Masonic Fraternity, Odd Fellows, Sons of Temperance, Know Nothing nor any other secret society that does exist, or hereafter may exist, founded on the wisdom of men.

RULES OF DECORUM

1. On convening, the Association shall be called to order by the former moderator or clerk, if present, who shall, after reading a portion of the Scriptures, singing and praying, call for the reading of the roll of churches from the minutes. The delegates from the different churches will, on hearing the names of their respective churches called, produce letters as their credentials and have their name enrolled by the former clerk, if present and in order, or some other suitable brother.

2. The next in order shall be the choice of a permanent moderator and a clerk for the time being; after which shall follow the reception of churches through their letters.

3. The moderator shall fill the chair and preserve order in the Association, which shall be opened and closed with prayer, either by himself or some other brother.

4. The privilege and authority of the moderator shall be respected by the members, yet he shall not be arbitrary in exercising them. He shall decide upon questions of order and propriety; but from his decision an appeal, if seconded, may be made to the Association, and the decision of the Association shall be binding on all parties.

5. The moderator shall vote in no case unless the Association be equally divided, and then shall give the deciding vote. He shall have the same privilege of speaking as other members, provided he calls some other member to the chair.

6. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise from his

seat and address the moderator. He shall not be interrupted unless he depart from his subject or make personal reflections. He shall not speak more than twice on the same subject without leave of the moderator, unless to explain what is misunderstood or misrepresented.

7. No member shall vacate his seat without leave of the moderator.

8. When the question is taken up, after allowing time for deliberation, the moderator shall take the voice of the Association either by yeas or nays, viva voice, or by requiring those on the affirmative side to rise from their seats, and if necessary those on the negative side also. The moderator shall announce the decision before he resumes his seat.

9. Motions and amendments to motions, if seconded, must be considered unless withdrawn. The usual order in deliberative bodies shall be observed in disposing of them by this Association.

10. The list of names of delegates shall be called over, and the constitution and rules of decorum, or any part thereof, read as often as the Association may direct.

11. The clerk shall enroll the names of delegates, minutes of the proceedings of the body, and discharge such other duties as the Association may direct.

12. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if necessary, and signed by the moderator and the clerk before the Association rises.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe in only one true and living God, the Father, the Word, and Holy Ghost. Deut. 4:39; Mark 12:9; John 5:7.

2. We believe that the scripture of the Old and New Testaments are of divine authority, and the only rule of faith and practice. 2 Tim. 3:16; Rom. 15:2, 3.

3 We believe in the doctrine of election by grace, and that God chose His people in Christ before the world began. Eph. 1:4; Rom. 11:5; Titus 1:2.

4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin—Gen. 2:6; Rom. 2:1.

5. We believe that man cannot of his own free will or ability recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature—Eph. 2:8-9; Heb. 9:21; 1 Pet. 2:24.

6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ—Rom. 3:22; Titus 3:5.

7. We believe that God's elect shall be called, converted and regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit—Malachi 3:17; 1 Peter 1:2.

8. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace and never fall finally away—Jn. 10:27-28; Rom. 7:36-39; 2 Tim. 1:9.

9. We believe that baptism, the Lord's Supper and washing the saints' feet are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that baptism is by immersion the only apostolic mode, and true believers the only proper subjects for baptism.—Matt. 3:13; Acts 8:13, 36 For the Lord's supper—Mark 16:13; Luke 12:9. For washing the saints' feet—Jn. 13:15; 2 Tim. 5:10; Genesis 18:4.

10. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment, and that the joys of the saints and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.—1 Thess. 4:16; Rev. 20.15.

11. We believe that no minister has the right to administer the ordinance of Jesus Christ except those who have been regularly baptised and called of God, and come under the imposition of the hands of a presbytery—Acts 13;2-3; Titus 1:5.

12. We believe that none but regularly baptised persons have a right to commune at the Lord's table—Mark 14; 1 Cor. 11:24; Exodus 2:43.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	CLERKS	NAMES OF MESSENGERS	Sun. of Meeting	Rec'd by Baptism	Rec. by Letter	Restored to Fel.	Dis'd by Letter	Excluded	Deceased	Tot. Membership	Contribution
Cypress Creek	Freddie Thomas	Bro. L. C. Crawford, Bro. Freddie Thomas	2,4	..		..	..	..	1	35	$19.25
Street Hill	J. E. Davis, Rt. 3, Box 113A, Holly Springs, M.	Bro. A. D. Shipp, Bro. J. E. Davis, Bro. Clyde Davis	3	1	..			..		33	9.25
Harmonia	Bennie Taylor, Rt. 1, Box 134, Byhalia. Miss.	Bro. Louis Jones, Bro. Bennie Taylor	4	..	..			..	2	16	8.00
Rocky Mt.	Hudson Booth, Rt. 3, Bateville, Miss.	Bro. Hudson Booth, Bro. Galveston Hughes	4	..	..		..	..	1	28	19.50
Hurricane Creek ..... New Zion*	W.M. Thompson, Rt. 3 Box 145, Oxford, Miss.	Bro. Percy Parkham, Bro. W. M. Thompson	1			..	..			9	6.00

Absentees marked thus:*